Orval W. Smith, 78

The funeral for Oval W. Smith, 78, of 410 7th S.E., Watertown, S.D., was held November 30, 1995, in the Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer, Watertown, S.D. Rev Paul Knudson and Rev. Tom Christenson officiated. Smith died on November 27, 1995, in a Watertown nursing home.

Burial was in the Groton Union Cemetery, Groton, S.D.. Honorary pallbearers were "all of his many friends." Active pallbearers were Earl Lowry, Eldon Bailey, Robert Broadwine, Bert Drake, Kenneth Stormo and Alfred Locken. Music was presented by his niece, Dorothy Maurstad, as organist, and his cousin David Sueltz, as soloist.

Orval was born on February 7, 1917, in Groton, S.D. He was the son of Leo and Maizie (Thompson) Smith.

He attended elementary school in Putney Township and high school in Groton. Orval married Bernice Melland on September 5, 1939 at Breckenridge, Minn. They farmed in the Groton area until 1962. The family moved to Groton where Orval worked for Ackerman Welding Supply. In March of 1966, he purchased Tri-State Welding Supply, of Watertown, from the Ackermans. Orval retired in 1980, after which they spent their winters in McAllen, Texas.

He was an active member of Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Groton, S.D., Chairman of the Farmers Union Oil Co. of Aberdeen and the Brown County Soil Conservation District.

He is survived by his wife, Bernice, of Watertown; two sons: Keith, of Kadoka, S.D., and Curtis and his wife, Cookie, of Denver, Colo.; two daughters: Diane Sallee and her husband, Dave, of Dallas, Texas, and Cheryl Voss and her husband Lee, of Lubbock, Texas; six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, three infant sisters and one infant son.